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later literature, and their important place in Greek education and culture, or concerning their value as a source of information about early Greek civilization, almost nothing about the Homeric age except its armor and dress, and no complete outline of the *Iliad*.

The notes on the text cite without comment a score of passages or expressions from the *Aeneid* to show Virgil's imitation of Homer, and a few from other ancient authors. Parallel passages from modern literature are extremely few, but pertinent. The explanatory notes are sufficiently full, and are well adapted to the needs of the beginner.

The work has a number of illustrations that illustrate, and a convenient vocabulary. One very commendable feature is the use of footnotes to define *ἄταξ λεγόμενα*. The editor does not presuppose a familiarity with the epic dialect, but gives about fifty pages to Homeric forms and grammar, and this material is made more available by the use of bold-face type for headings and by an index.

On the whole, Mr. Benner has produced a very useful book and has carried out successfully a plan that will commend itself to many.

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The Speeches of Isaeus. With Critical and Explanatory Notes. By WILLIAM WYSE. Cambridge: University Press (New York: The Macmillan Co.), 1904. Pp. lxiv + 755. \$6 net.

An edition of Isaeus with commentary has not appeared since that of Schoemann (1831). His orations have been too little read in the classroom to create a strong demand for annotations, so that it has been necessary to seek in the pages of periodicals and works on Athenian law for the necessary explanations of difficulties. The need of an up-to-date commentary has been supplied by Mr. Wyse in the fullest measure. It would be difficult to find a more complete treatment of the language and subject-matter of any ancient writer than we have in the present volume.

The Critical Introduction contains chapters upon the "Descendants of A," the "History of A," a "Description of A," the "Corrections in A," the "Faults of A," a "Description of Q," the "Manuscripts of Dionysius of Halicarnassus" and "Editions and Subsidia." Wyse takes the view that A is to be preferred to A pr., "unless there are strong reasons for the contrary course," thus siding with Thalheim against Buermann.

Following the ordinary excerpts concerning the orator (pp. 1-5) comes the text with critical notes (pp. 6-174). The text is conservative, and admits few of the editor's own emendations, though the notes contain numerous suggestions concerning improvements in the reading. The text was printed before the appearance of Thalheim's edition (1903), but the Introduction and Notes make full use of it.

Some idea of the fulness of the commentary may be gained from the fact that

there are 550 large octavo pages, closely printed, upon 150 (Teubner) pages of text. There are thorough analyses of subject-matter, numberless parallel passages from other orators, copious syntactical notes on points insufficiently explained in the grammars, and full discussion of difficult legal questions. Nothing that has been said about Isaeus seems to have escaped the editor. On all disputed points the reader has abundant material furnished for forming an independent opinion, if he does not choose to accept the carefully considered views expressed by Wyse.

In the Preface the judgment of Dionysius of Halicarnassus upon Isaeus is cited, and followed by the statement that "the leading purpose of this edition is to show by analysis of the extant speeches that ancient scholars had a juster appreciation of the orator's art than is shown by modern writers on Greek law." In pursuance of this purpose, the notes constantly point out the sophistical nature of Isaeus' arguments or the insufficiency of his proofs. My present impression is that this leading idea sometimes carries Mr. Wyse too far, though I have not space to discuss the matter here.

A. G. L.

Selections from the Public and Private Law of the Romans. By

JAMES J. ROBINSON. New York: American Book Co., 1905.

Pp. 304. \$1.25.

In view of the great importance of the study of Roman law not only in relation to general jurisprudence, but in its bearing upon Roman history, its comparative neglect in this country is surprising. For this, however, there has perhaps been some excuse in the lack of texts suited to the needs of students wishing a general introduction to the subject. A successful attempt to remedy this defect has been made by Dr. Robinson in this volume of selections.

There is an excellent introduction of thirty-three pages, giving in a concise form much valuable historical and bibliographical matter. The first Latin text is Pomponius, *De origine iuris*, preserved to us in *Digest* I. 2. 2, where it is appropriately placed, serving as an introduction to the further study of the law. In the rest of the book the general plan of the *Institutes* is followed, those selections being included which devote especial attention to the law of the family, contracts, and inheritance. The extracts from the *Institutes* of Justinian are supplemented by quotations, not only from Gaius' *Institutes*, but also from the *Code* and the *Digest*, the latter often giving most valuable concrete illustrations—a species of "case law."

At times the editor seems somewhat uncertain about his text, as on p. 62, l. 10, where he reads *solumque*, but in his note says "instead of *solumque* read *vel solebant*." The latter is an emendation of Mommsen; there is nothing in the note, however, to indicate this. There is a similar confusion in regard to *oriuntur* or *ordiuntur* on p. 64, l. 6. For the sake of consistency, the emendation of *debere* for *debet* should have been noted on p. 240, l. 4. Two misprints occur: *vivent* for *vivente*, p. 94, l. 15, and *quis* for *quia*, p. 140, l. 6.